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**THE GOLD QUESTION.**

Referring to the non-return of gold to the Treasury by Messrs. Bishop & Co. for part of the silver coin they sold for the Government, the *Guide* says: "The ADVERTISER does not explain that Bishop & Co. were not the owners of those notes; that they acted as agents for clients; that the transaction had the full sanction of the Government, and that by so doing, the Government was immediately \$70,000 better off." The ADVERTISER stated the exact facts, and these "explanations" are all inaccurate. First: Whosoever the notes in question may have been, Bishop & Co. acted as principals in taking a share in the tender for the silver coin. Second: The transaction did not have the full sanction of the Government, but the settlement made was forced upon it under threats. Third: There is no reason to believe that if Bishop & Co. had carried out their undertaking strictly, and abstained from that action which is their excuse for the breach of their engagements, the Government would have been called upon for \$110,000 or \$180,000 in gold on 1st December; for though such a course may have been contemplated by holders of notes when exchange was high, the moment that it fell to a normal rate the inducement for such a course was gone. Moreover, as we have already said, what other people may have threatened to do is no excuse for what Messrs. Bishop & Co. actually did, more especially as in depriving the Treasury of \$110,000 in gold and "satisfying with exchange" other persons who were supposed to be about to act similarly they undoubtedly secured their usual profit on the transaction. We do not for one moment believe that that rush on the Treasury, the fear of which is the excuse put forward in this case, would ever really have been made. But if it had been, we still say—better so than have, that happen which did happen.

**REDEMPTION OF CERTIFICATES.**

The *Guide* challenges the Government to give the names of those for whom certificates have been redeemed since December 1st, and Mr. J. O. Carter says such a list will be a "startling revelation." This was the first information we sought to obtain when we learnt that the Bank had decided to refuse to accept certificates as equivalent to gold. It is much to be regretted that, there being no apparent reason for it, no distinct record was kept of the presentation of certificates for redemption. This much, however, is known, viz., that those who most largely withdrew gold from the Treasury in this way were some of those who had expressed, on 29th November last, their intention to keep the certificates in circulation instead of having them redeemed. Amongst the largest, if not (next to Bishop & Co.) actually the largest, operators in this way, was the mercantile company of which Mr. J. O. Carter is an official. Messrs. Bishop & Co. began the racket with their \$110,000, and it has been steadily going on since; by far the largest portion of the gold withdrawn being demanded by members of the Chamber of Commerce, who, like Messrs. Bishop & Co., were parties to the resolution of the 29th November, by which the general public were so adroitly hoodwinked.

**THE CENSUS.**

The consolidated report of the census of the Hawaiian Islands, taken December 27th, 1884, has been published, and a study of it elucidates some interesting facts.

In the first place, the native population of the islands is set down at 21,504 males and 18,510 females, making a total of 40,014. Of half-castes there are 2119 males and 2,099 females, in all 4,218. This number added to the "native" population gives a total of 44,232 Hawaiians by birth and blood on these islands.

According to the census of 1878—6 years ago—the same population footed up 47,508, the decrease in six years having, therefore, been 3,276. This represents a percentage of decrease of 6.8 per cent, or 1.13 per cent per annum. This percentage of de-

crease in the "Hawaiian" population is about 1 per cent less than it was during the preceding six years ending in 1878. The decrease amongst the "natives" has been less by 882 than it was prior to 1878, while the increase amongst the half-castes has been 137 less.

The increase in the whole population has been 22,593, a gain of nearly 39 per cent. Of this number there is a gain of over 12,000 Chinese, and nearly 9,000 Portuguese.

The report presents many other features of interest, and we are promised a detailed statement of population, together with statistics in regard to health, education, religion, etc., as soon as the matter can be printed.

**German Annexation in the Pacific.**

The *New Zealand Herald* has the following on the reported annexation of Samoa by Germany:

"When our last monthly summary was issued the public mind was considerably occupied with the question of the ultimate disposal of the Samoan and Tongan Islands. As a consequence of the annexation fever which has seized the Continental nations of Europe, and of the suspicious looking movements of German war ships in the Pacific, the King and chiefs of Samoa had become apprehensive of their fate, and thereupon took measures to signify their wish to be either taken under the protectorate of Britain or united with New Zealand. On ascertaining this the German residents and naval officials drew up an agreement, which virtually placed the government and control of the islands in their hands, and the King was induced to sign this, lest his refusal might lead to the sudden and forcible annexation of his Kingdom. This circumstance he afterwards officially communicated to the New Zealand Government, and at the same time urged them to use their influence with the British Government to give effect to his wish for protection. This led to an official telegraphic correspondence between the Imperial and Colonial authorities, and for some time the Government steamer *Hinemoa* was held in readiness to proceed to Samoa with a view to ascertain the feelings of the natives, and to take what other steps might be deemed advisable. As these communications resulted in the Colonial Office considering it inexpedient that any overt action should be taken, and intimating that an understanding had been come to between Germany and England mutually to abstain from interfering with Samoa and Tonga, the question has now ceased to excite public feeling. It is, however, taken for granted that the agreement which the King signed under fear will be inoperative, and that the Colonial Office has not in this matter, as in that of annexing the northern portion of New Guinea, allowed itself to be overreached."

**The Sugar Trade of 1884.**

The following is the abstract of the article on this subject in the *New York Shipping and Commercial List*, from which a quotation appeared in yesterday's P. C. ADVERTISER:

"New York, January 26.—The annual sugar trade of the United States, exclusive of the Pacific Coast, during the year ending December 31, 1884, as reported by the *Shipping and Commercial List*, shows the following interesting particulars: The total receipts of foreign sugar at all American ports on the Atlantic seaboard were 1,135,964 tons of 2240 pounds, of which 63,643 tons were exported to Canada, and 88,917 tons remained on hand; showing that 981,404 tons of raw foreign sugar was consumed in this country during the year. The home production of the Southern States was 135,443 tons, which gives the grand total of sugar consumed in the United States at 1,116,847 tons, or 51.70 pounds per capita. The increase of consumption for the year was 65,882 tons over that of 1883.

"Beet root sugar, of which 63,000 tons were received from Europe during the year, already challenges cane sugar for the control of the markets of the world. The year just past has been a disastrous one, and the market value of raw sugar has in many instances gone below the cost of production. This has been most disastrously on the producing countries, as the heavy failures in Europe and the distress in Cuba bear witness.

"In almost every sugar-producing country the latest advices received point to a supply of cane and beet root in excess of last year; but how much of this will be harvested and turned into sugar will be determined by the future market value of the commodity.

"The steady shrinkage of prices has brought the market value of raw sugar to the lowest point recorded in thirty-five years. The year opened with fair refined selling at 6 1/16 cents, and although during the month of August it had fallen to 4 1/16 cents, a decline of two cents, the best price afterward obtained was 4 13/16 cents, an advance of only one-eighth of a cent, and the year closed with 4 1/2 cents the best obtainable price. The average price for the year for the standard grade was 5.25 cents, the lowest average price since 1854. That this value is below the cost of produc-

tion can be readily ascertained, for when the duty, freight and charges are deducted there is a little more than one cent per pound left, from which Cuban planters have to deduct export duty and land carriage."

**At the Roller Skating.**

Only a girl on roller skates.  
Only a female defying the fates;  
Only a step or two out on the floor,  
Only this—then something more.  
Only a man on the backward glide,  
With hands outstretched and feet spread wide;  
Only a bold dash, then a dull thud,  
Only a scream that would curdle your blood.  
Only a mingling of stripes in the air,  
Only a shower of suburban hair;  
Then she sat on him by the top,  
Never was a man so sat upon.  
—Herald.

**Foreign News Items Condensed.**

Colonel Stewart, who was wounded at the recent engagement at El Metamah, is recovering.

The Mahdi has been strongly reinforced, and is still in the neighborhood of El Metamah.

In London warnings have been given that attempts would be made to blow up the Law Courts, the British Museum, and the Bank of England with dynamite. Extra guards have been placed at these buildings, and precautions taken to prevent any attempt being made.

From the United States we learn that several State Legislatures have passed votes expressing abhorrence at the recent dynamite outrages in London, and bills have been introduced to render penal the hatchings of any plots in the States.

From Berlin, it is reported that a bill to grant a subsidy to a line of steamers to Australia, but not to Samoa, was rejected.

From Rome, in the Chamber of Deputies, the Italian Secretary of Foreign Affairs made a statement regarding the recent extension of Italian domination at Asab and Belal Bay, in the Red Sea. He referred especially to the *entente cordiale* between England and Italy with regard to the Red Sea Coasts, and declared that the Italian action in Egypt was parallel with that of England.

**Women in England as Clerks and Bookkeepers.**

"Of all the benefits that could be conferred upon England," said Lord Shaftesbury, the other day, "none would be so great as the emigration of from 200,000 to 300,000 women." Even after that drastic operation there would still remain a surplus of nearly half a million women over men in the United Kingdom. This naturally leads to the encroachment of women upon many fields of industry hitherto monopolized by men. Amongst others, they are daily making their way as clerks and bookkeepers. The market for clerical labor is overstocked, but woman's work is cheaper than man's, and she makes her way. As bookkeepers in hotels, restaurants, and boarding-houses, as well as in many shops, women are preferred to male clerks. Properly to qualify herself for the post it is necessary first that a girl should have a sound middle-class education; and then that, after leaving school, she should attend a bookkeeping class, of which several are held in different parts of London. The classes are generally held after the usual working hours, so as not to interfere with other employment; and the fees are low enough to enable almost any girl to attend. After an attendance for four to five months at any of these classes, a girl has generally acquired the principles of bookkeeping. On entering a situation the payment begins modestly at ten shillings per week, and rises to fifteen and twenty shillings. Higher salaries are paid to bookkeepers with some knowledge of French, German or shorthand, the maximum payment being £100. Resident situations vary from the above in several respects. The salary is, of course, lower, and as a rule there are no fixed hours. The Sundays have also partly to be spent in the house. Situations in business are therefore preferable. In such the hours are on an average from nine till seven. In trades, especially with butchers, grocers, fish-mongers, etc., the hours are later, the bookkeeping often being done after the rest of the work is over. Bookkeepers employed in all the different branches of the work have told me that the work is easy, and that they are without exception treated with kindness and consideration. The reason for preferring women bookkeepers is given by a lady who has kept books for half a century, in the fact that women are more trustworthy than men, and that embezzlements have never to her knowledge occurred where a woman kept the books. "Besides," adds the old lady, "women work for less money than men. However, they are much better paid than they were years ago. Yes, yes; bookkeepers are getting on, and will get on better." And with a cheerful nod and a bright smile the veteran bookkeeper turns to her life's work and begins to write.

"As yet, however, the experiment of employing men and women together as clerks, as they are employed together in shops and in the telegraph service, is regarded as rather a hazardous one. Why this should be we do not exactly know, but that it is so is indubitable. It can hardly be more dangerous to be in a counting-house together than to be in a shop, but the rule is very strict. Take, for instance, one of the best places of the kind, that of the Prudential Assurance Company, in Holborn, where 180 female clerks are constantly employed. There is no communication between the clerks of different sexes; the hours of work are arranged in such a way as to prevent them from meeting when coming or leaving; there is a separate entrance for each, and the women's apartments are in a different part of the building. If such severe restrictions are necessary, the field of female industry will be much restricted. The experience of the Telegraph Department is that they are unnecessary, and that morality gains rather than loses when men and women work together."—*Pall Mall Budget*.

The Superior Court of San Francisco holds that a Chinese child born in America is entitled to admission to the public schools.

**AUCTION SALE.****Furniture Sale.**

On Wednesday, Feb. 18th,  
AT 10 O'CLOCK A.M.

At the Residence of the late Mrs. M. R. Chase, No. 47 Emma Street, will be sold.

**HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE****CLOTHING, ETC.**

SEE POSTERS.  
E. P. ADAMS,  
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By order of HENRY R. MACFARLANE, ESQ.,  
I will offer at Public Auction,

Saturday, March 28th,  
At 12 o'clock, noon, at my Salesroom,

UNLESS PREVIOUSLY DISPOSED  
OF AT PRIVATE SALE.

Those Splendid Lots on the Corner  
of Beretania and Pitko Sts.

Subdivided as follows into House Lots, and at the following upset prices, from which there can be no variation:—

Lot 1—100 feet by 150 feet, Beretania Street. Upset price, \$1500.  
Lot 2—100 feet by 150 feet, Kinau Street. Upset price, \$1200.  
Lot 3—100 feet by 150 feet, Beretania Street. Upset price, \$1400.  
Lot 4—100 feet by 150 feet, Kinau Street. Upset price, \$1100.  
Lot 5—100 feet by 150 feet, Beretania Street. Upset price, \$1400.  
Lot 6—100 feet by 150 feet, Kinau Street. Upset price, \$1100.  
Lot 7—100 feet by 300 feet, with the buildings thereon. Upset price, \$2400.  
Lot 8—100 feet by 150 feet, Beretania Street. Upset price, \$1250.  
Lot 9—100 feet by 150 feet, Young Street. Upset price, \$900.  
Lot 10—100 feet by 150 feet, Beretania Street. Upset price, \$1250.  
Lot 11—100 feet by 150 feet, Young Street. Upset price, \$900.

The upper lots were purchased by Mr. Macfarlane for a residence, and for the purpose of improvement, it has had great care and cultivation, so that at present it is well covered by a large variety of trees, as well as a choice collection of plants and flowers, all in bloom.

Among the fruit and shade trees will be found the Traveller's Tree, the Royal Palm, the Wine Palm, the Lemon Tree, the Fan Palm, the Coconut, the Japanese Orange, the Ponciana Regia, the Mandarin Orange, the Fig Tree, the Alligator Pear, the Almond and others. In Roses and Flowers there are a great variety, which must be seen to be appreciated.

Water pipes are laid on in each of Lots Nos. 1 to 7, inclusive, and 50 feet of hose will reach any part of them. These lots are situated just in the centre of the Kaloakaha Plains, on the principal street leading from Honolulu, and are within twenty minutes' walk from town, as well as being upon the omnibus route to Punahou.

I shall offer them on very favorable terms for purchasers, namely:

One-Fourth Cash, and balance in equal payments of one, two, three and four years, with interest at 7 per cent, secured by mortgage.  
This division of payments, and low rates of interest, allows one for a comparatively small sum annually paid for four years, to become the owner of a beautiful homestead lot.

Parties desiring lots must make early application, as we shall sell at private sale to those who first apply.

Plans of the property can be seen at my office.

Deeds at Purchasers Expense.

E. P. ADAMS,  
509 mar28 Auctioneer.

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